

AIZOME

June 2005

Design Inspiration

This ensemble was inspired by a vintage Japanese kimono design depicting a flowering vine twining through a bamboo lattice. I adapted this idea to showcase my collection of Japanese indigo prints. The bamboo lattice has been replaced by bias strips arranged in a diamond-shaped grid and the flowering vine has been replaced by diamond-shaped patches of different Japanese floral prints. To complete the Japanese theme of the ensemble, Sashiko background quilting, patchwork bands of Japanese woodblock prints and appliques of a batik print were added as accents.

Fabrics

Jacket: rayon/acetate crepe, assorted cotton Yukata prints, woodblock prints and other Japanese cotton fabrics, cotton batiks.

Jacket lining: 100% rayon.

Pants and purse: rayon/acetate crepe, assorted Japanese woodblock prints and other Japanese cotton fabrics.

Top: cotton knit, Japanese cotton for bias trim.

Embellishments

Jacket: Sashiko quilting, applique finished with bias trim, patchwork bands and broderie-perse applique finished with satin stitch using rayon thread.

Pants and purse: Sashiko quilting, patchwork bands.

Top: appliqued bias trim.

Patterns

Jacket, Top, Pants and Purse: Simplicity 4699.

Special Sewing Techniques

The background of the jacket and purse have been machine quilted with a Sashiko design. The hand-look quilting stitch uses invisible thread in the needle and a heavier weight embroidery cotton in the bobbin. On the jacket, an irregular grid of diamond-shaped patches

was laid out on each pattern piece. Fussy-cut, diamond-shaped Japanese fabrics have been appliqued onto each grid and the raw edges of the appliqued patches finished by covering them with bias binding. Strip-pieced patchwork bands made of many Japanese prints are used for the collar and cuffs. Similar bands have been used on the pant hems and the purse. The jacket is further decorated with broderie-perse applique cut from a batik print and finished with satin stitching.

Exhibitions and Awards

Runner-up: Most Creative Use of Fabric, ASG Creativity Contest June 2005.

Honorable Mention, Pennsylvania National Quilt Extravaganza XII, September 2005.